

CURRENT NEWS.

WASHINGTON.
The Committee on Agriculture has authorized a favorable report to the House on the resolution asking for an investigation of the Department of Agriculture.

The House Committee on Levees of the Mississippi River has agreed to report favorably on the bill introduced by Mr. Gibson to provide for the appointment of a Mississippi River Commission to direct and complete surveys of the Mississippi River and report the result to the Secretary of War, together with such plans and estimates as may improve the navigation of the river and prevent the destructive floods. It authorizes the expenditure of \$175,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to affect the object with which the Commission is charged.

Prof. Eads has made application for an additional payment of \$100,000, claiming that he has obtained a channel at the mouth of the Mississippi 25 feet deep and 300 feet wide. The matter is under consideration in the War Department.

In response to a letter addressed to him by Secretary Schurz inquiring what amount of funds can be made available monthly for the payment of arrears due upon pensions which were allowed prior to Jan. 25, 1879, the Secretary of the Treasury states that, including the amount already paid \$2,000,000 will be available prior to July 1, and \$2,000,000 monthly thereafter. At this rate nearly the whole of the next fiscal year will be required to complete the payment of these arrears. In view of this condition of affairs the Commissioner of Pensions has issued a circular letter to applicants for arrears, stating that on account of the limited amount of money available each month for the payment of arrears, a comparatively small number of cases only can be adjusted monthly, and that any delay may occur in the settlement of claims.

WEST AND SOUTHWEST.

A conference of gentlemen interested in the Southern route of the proposed Pacific coast line, held in St. Louis, Gen. Conway of New York, representing certain parties in the East, took a prominent part in the deliberations, and stated that in view of the fact that the Mississippi boats were refusing to transport the negroes North, it had been determined to charter a boat for the special purpose of bringing away such as voluntarily desired to come. The conference was adjourned to be held out for them to leave their homes, he said, but all who desired to do so would be afforded an opportunity. He also stated that the proposed route would be instituted against the steamboat companies refusing transportation to the colored people, for violation of the laws governing common carriers.

Two years ago a man named Dan Edmunds, who lived in Livingston County, Ky., ran off to Arkansas with a neighbor's daughter, leaving a wife and family behind. A short time ago he started back to his former home with the woman and a child, and when near the Mississippi River killed and buried both. On returning he took up with his lawful wife. The bodies of the murdered woman and child were found and identified, and an officer from Arkansas proceeded to the home of the murderer, arrested and took him back to the scene of his crime.

A fire at Lexington, Ky., on the evening of the 14th, destroyed the residence of H. A. Adams, a well-known citizen, and the residence of Louis Combs. Total loss about \$100,000, mostly covered by insurance.

John I. West was hanged at Booneville, Mo., on the 16th, for the murder of a man named Frank Shinn in October last. The murderer and his victim were fellow-tramps. West was only about 34 years of age and had a wife and one child at Lanesville, Mo. His parents reside in Boone County, Ill. He made a full confession of the crime previous to his execution and was apparently penitent. The hanging was witnessed by several thousand people, and the horror of the occasion was augmented by the breaking of the rope on the first springing of the trap.

Robert Cherry, colored, was hanged for rape at Plaquemine, La., on the 16th.

The Indianapolis Post-Office was robbed on the 16th of \$400 in registered letters and letters. Edward Stewart, a colored porter in the Post-office, subsequently confessed to the robbery. The registered letters were all recovered, unopened.

Wallace Wilcox was killed by shooting at Provo, Utah, on the 16th, for the murder of a man named Baxter.

John Morgan, associate editor of the Ellisworth (Kans.) Times, and his brother, William Morgan, cashier of the St. Nicholas Hotel at Cincinnati, were killed by a falling tree on the 16th, while out on a fishing trip. While in the middle of the stream they encountered a tremendous log, which fell upon them, and they were unable to swim ashore.

Major William Bond, General Manager of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad, tendered his resignation, to take effect June 30.

Mr. Cheney B. Prouty, Collector of Customs at Indianapolis, Texas, has been awarded the honorary brown medal of the Royal Humane Society, for gallantry exhibited May 6, 1878, in swimming two miles in shark-infested waters from an overturned boat to bring assistance and rescue a British subject.

The Denver, South Park and Pacific Railway is completed to Kenosha Summit, 10,140 feet above the sea level, the highest point yet attained by a railroad in North America.

Charles W. Carter, Secretary of the Lancers, U. S. A., blew out his brains at the Platters House, St. Louis, on the 16th. He was a native of Potomac, Pa., and graduated at West Point in 1875. It is not known what impelled him to commit the deed.

Andrew Manning and wife of Danielsonville, Conn., had lived unpleasantly together for some years. On the 16th, after a quarrel of more than ordinary bitterness, he went to the woodshed, and, procuring an axe, came up quietly behind his wife while she was eating her dinner, and deliberately split her head open.

Mr. Brock, during his recent tour, was arrested by the children having given the alarm, and he was pursued by the neighbors, and rather than be captured he jumped into a deep pond and was drowned, no effort having been made to rescue him.

A triple execution took place at Hillsboro, N. C., on the 15th, the victims being Alfonso Davis and Henry Andrews, white men, and Lewis Carlton, colored. All three were hanged for burglary and assault, which was made a capital crime in North Carolina.

Henry J. Cross, for many years City Treasurer of Salem, Mass., hanged himself. Mental depression, caused by overwork, is the alleged cause.

Judge Asa Parker, formerly Representative in Congress from Pennsylvania, and one of the wealthiest men of the State, died at his home in Mauch Chunk on the 17th, at the age of 78 years. He was a self-made man, having started out in life as the driver of a canal boat.

James Hall, aged 40; William Adams, aged 35; and Rosie Stenglein, aged 15, were drowned by the upsetting of a yacht in New York Harbor on the 15th.

At Concord, N. H., May 13, the mercury registered 100 deg. in the shade; at Plymouth, 97; at Exeter, 91; at Bangor, Me., 88 to 92 deg. This is the hottest weather ever known in the White Mountain region so early in the season.

VOLUME VIII.

KEYTESVILLE, CHARITON COUNTY, MO., SATURDAY, MAY 24, 1879.

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